

WANT MORE LIGHT.

RETRENCHMENT MEMBERS CRITICISE THE ENGINEER.

BROAD STREET MATTER IS UP AGAIN.

The Mayor is the Subject of Some Discussion — Other Departmental Duties Inquired Into—James River and Relief of Poor.

The Council Committee on Retrenchment and Reform met in Room No. 5 of the City Hall last night, with the following members present: Messrs. Allen (chairman), Rountree, Noble, Ebel, Zimmerman, Harrelson, Starke, Jones, and King.

The session was taken up with the examination of the head janitor of the City Hall, the offer, the Superintendent of the Almshouse, the steward of the same institution, and the captain of the city's tug. No reductions were made.

There was a spirited discussion of the failure of Mayor Taylor to attend the meetings of the committee, when invited to do so, and Colonel Cutsaw was somewhat criticised in connection with a discussion of the rough condition of Broad street, caused by the laying of the four tracks.

BEGINS ITS WORK.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

There was some discussion as to the mode of procedure, and, upon motion of Mr. Rountree, it was determined to hear heads of the various city departments summoned to appear at the meeting in the order in which they appeared on the docket.

The head janitor of the City Hall, Mr. S. Wright, was first called. He presented a written statement of his duties. He said he was supposed to work nine hours a day, but that his duties were so numerous and so onerous that it took him at least twelve hours every day to get through with them. He had to keep all offices, passages, and stairs clean, except the Fire-Alarm Department, the Post-room, and Post Office. Mr. Wright's salary was \$60 a month; he has six assistants, and, including the court janitors, there are twelve in the City Hall.

Mr. Toler, the other, was next called. He said he was on duty from 7 A. M. to 4, 5, or 6 o'clock in the afternoon. He has charge of all the radiators, and assists the engineer. His salary is \$6 a month. There was very little oiling to be done in the City Hall. He oils all the machinery and elevators. He was the first officer appointed in the Hall. His position was misnamed. He not only assisted the engineer, but the fireman, too, and sometimes runs an elevator. He was really a helper in the engine-room, and did odd jobs around the building.

JAMES-RIVER IMPROVEMENT.

Captain Thomas Cunningham, commanding of the city's tug, stated that his duties occupied his time from 7 A. M. to 7 P. M. His salary was \$100 a month. His duties were to attend the dredging machine, and to see that the tugs were set in distress. He also had to tow vessels, and assist commerce as far as lay in his power. At times, when freshets prevailed, his duties were more onerous, and occupied his time day and night. His jurisdiction extended from the locks down.

THE CITY ALMSHOUSE.

Mr. George B. Davis, Superintendent of the City Almshouse, stated that he was on duty all the time and subject to call day or night. He had two assistants. His salary, he said, is \$1,200 a year, with house rent free. There were 1,000 families here supplied with meal and wood, which is saved at the almshouse. In reply to Mr. Rountree, he said that there had been some complaints about the delivery of the wood, but these grew less frequent as the men became familiar with their duties. The wood is saved by contract at 40 cents a cord. Last year 888 cords had been given away. This year about 600 or 700 cords had been distributed. Tramps and other inmates were employed to save the wood, thereby saving money to the poor.

The Committee on James-River Improvement was to have met at 6 o'clock last evening, but failed to get a quorum. Those in attendance were Mr. Friedman, Vaughan, and Messrs. Christian, Ferguson, Harrelson, Picot, and Allison.

effect of four tracks on Broad street would be, and was guilty of great dereliction of duty in not fully acquainting the committee and Council with the facts, or he did not know what the effect would be, which would seem to indicate that Colonel Cutsaw was not competent to deal with the matter.

Mr. Rountree suggested that the point in question as to whether the Engineer was responsible in this instance should be further investigated by a special committee. Messrs. Zimmerman, Noble, and Harrelson further criticised the attitude of Colonel Cutsaw in this matter. Mr. Rountree said that the Engineer had informed him that he did not, and could not, anticipate the present conditions.

COLOR OF NEGLECT."

Mr. Zimmerman submitted that that was an admission of incompetency. It was the duty of the City Engineer to look ahead, and to shield the city from extra expenses. He thought that the City Engineer and his assistants had been guilty of great neglect in this matter. He was moved by Mr. Starkie that this report should be further investigated.

Air Noble moved that the committee meet on Thursday next, and that the City Engineer should be summoned to attend, for the purpose of explaining the questions raised.

The committee adjourned shortly after 11 o'clock.

HEALTH FORCE TO LOSE TIME.

The Committee on Health held a regular meeting last night, and transacted a great deal of routine business. Those present were: Chairman Hobson, Burton, Hawkins, Moore, Sneed, and Williams.

The pay-rolls were approved, and Dr. Oppenheimer, President of the Board of Health, submitted the following statement of the financial condition of the department for March 1, 1897, in accordance with the provisions of the new budget:

Pay-Roll Account—Appropriation, \$6,500.

Expense Account—Appropriation, \$2,500; expended, \$192.50. Balance, \$2,307.50.

In connection with the above, Dr. Oppenheimer stated that he ordered the respective foremen of the several districts to have all men to lose one day's work in each week for the remainder of the year, as a matter of reducing the expenses of the department within the appropriation. He said that he thought it was better than to put off a part of the force entirely.

On motion of Mr. Burton, this action on the part of the President of the Board of Health was sustained.

Mr. Hawkins moved that, for the present, owing to the reduced appropriations this year, the President of the Board of Health, not to appoint any new men on the street-cleaning force, except from any reason vacancies should occur, but to transfer them from one district to another in such cases. This motion was lost.

Dr. Oppenheimer reported that one of the departmental mates had dropped dead, and the sub-committee on stables and the Doctor were instructed to buy a horse.

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DIDN'T MAKE AN ASSIGNMENT.

Mr. Jeffress Just Turned Over His Affairs to His Creditors.

Mr. Creed L. Jeffress, proprietor of the Excelsior Market, corner of Second and Main streets, is not a believer in assignments. He takes a different course of winding up his business affairs. Some time ago he formed a partnership with Mr. Lee W. Brauer, to conduct a green-grocery business at No. 29 east Main street. Subsequently, Mr. Brauer withdrew from the concern, and Mr. Jeffress continued to run the establishment. He found that he was losing money, so yesterday morning he locked his front door, and "posted" to his wife to send no one to take care of the store, as she was doing well at this. They promptly did, and as the stock was sufficient to satisfy most, none lost by the transaction.

Mr. Jeffress was disposed to deal honorably with his creditors, and thought his method the best to pursue.

FURNAL OF MRS. MAGILL.

The death of Mrs. Maryagan Magill, which occurred in Galveston, Tex., on Wednesday and was announced in the Dispatch yesterday, was a blow to many Richmond people. Mrs. Magill was the relic of the eminent surgeon of this city, Dr. Charles Magill, and was in her 60th year. She spent last summer and fall with her daughter, Mrs. S. D. Drewry, at "Minerva," Chesterfield county, Va., returning in December last to Galveston, Tex., with another daughter, Mrs. Henry Roseberry.

Mrs. Magill, before leaving this city, on the 20th instant, witnessed the realization of a cherished hope. On that day she saw in St. Paul's church here a beautiful memorial-window, just placed there in honor of her beloved husband, the memory of whose gentle comfort and upright life was a great comfort to her. The idea of erecting this memorial was conceived by Mrs. Magill, and was carried into execution with the assistance of her daughter, Mrs. Rosenberg.

Mrs. Magill is survived by the following sons and daughters: Dr. Henry Rosenberg (who was Miss Mollie Magill), of Galveston, Tex.; Mrs. Dr. Samuel D. Drewry, of Centralia, Va.; Mrs. C. G. Bridges, of Ashland, Va.; Dr. Charles Magill, of Culpeper, Md.; Dr. Mandridge Magill, of North Carolina, and Mr. Frank Magill, of Galveston, Tex.

While the details of the funeral have not been arranged, the remains will be brought to this city, and the interment will be made in Hollywood.

SURVEY OF CHESAPEAKE BAY.

(Baltimore American.)

Recently the American called attention to the foolish statements of the Superintendent of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey about the cost of the survey of the Chesapeake Bay. His tribe had asked for the cost at \$5,000, when common sense will tell the humblest understanding that the sum is utterly inadequate, and we warned our representatives in Congress not to be taken in by such a proposal as to his duties as Superintendent of Shockoe Cemetery, and as to the sanitary condition of the almshouse. In the latter connection, he said that the house had been condemned and was in a deplorable condition.

Upon motion of Mr. Harrelson, Mr. Hughes, Steward of the Almshouse, was allowed to make a statement of his duties. His hours on duty were from 7 A. M. until 7 P. M., and he received as compensation the sum of \$100 a month, which was delivered at the almshouse, and was held accountable for everything.

Mr. Davis was then recalled by the chairman, and questioned as to his duties as Superintendent of Shockoe Cemetery, for which he received \$5 a month as salary.

This exhausted the list of officials to be examined.

THE MAYOR'S ATTITUDE.

There was some discussion as to the attitude of the Mayor towards the committee. For the second time his presence had been requested at the session of the committee, and proper invitation had been sent him, and for the second time the Mayor had completely ignored the committee. The chairman of the committee drew attention to this fact, he said, to show that the body had acted with contempt towards the chief official of the city.

The cleric of the committee stated that he had served the notice upon the Mayor in the morning, and Mr. Zimmerman suggested that the notice was rather short. Mr. Russell, who was present, stated that after he delivered the first notice, and after the failure of the Mayor to respond to it, he had informed the Mayor that he would be invited to attend the next meeting.

BROAD-STREET TROUBLE.

The report of the sub-committee on the investigation of the condition of Broad street, was taken up and discussed. The failure of the City Engineer to acquire the services of the Street Commissioner and the City Council on all the probable contingencies that would arise if four tracks were laid on Broad street, making necessary the re-paving of Broad street outside the track, was criticised. Mr. Zimmerman said that either the Engineer knew what the

CRIMINAL EXPENSES.

PROPORTION OF EACH COUNTY AND CITY AND ASSESSED TAXES.

RICHMOND SHOWS UP VERY WELL.

Several Counties Get More Than They Pay Into the State Treasury.

Figures as to Assessments and Expenses—Interesting Comparison.

for criminal expenses is \$378,291.37. It is also necessary to state that the figures given above as to taxes assessed do not embrace license-taxes, which, for the calendar year ending September 30, 1896, amounted to \$64,927.50, a large proportion of which was paid in by the citizens of Richmond.

COLOR IN PHOTOGRAPHY.

M. Chassagne Describes His Successful Experiments.

Several counties Get More Than They Pay Into the State Treasury.

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GUILDFORD.—(Continued from page 1.)

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